

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-7 (Cancelled)

Claim 8 (New): A composition comprising:

a cosmetic base, and

a water-soluble extract of algae which is produced by:

aqueous extraction and proteolytic digestion of an algae, and

recovery of a water-soluble fraction containing algae proteins and peptides;

wherein said water-soluble extract when applied to skin or hair produces a superior shine or moistness compared to the application of the cosmetic base alone.

Claim 9 (New): The composition of Claim 8, wherein said cosmetic base is selected from the group consisting of an aqueous base, a water-in-oil emulsion, an oil-in-water emulsion and an oily base.

Claim 10 (New): The composition of Claim 8, wherein said cosmetic base is a face lotion, milky lotion, cream, ointment, shaving mousse, oil pack, shampoo, hair rinse, hair treatment, hair tonic, hair dressing, hair restorer, permanent wave solution, or hair coloring agent.

Claim 11 (New): The composition of Claim 8, wherein said cosmetic base is a body soap or bath agent.

Claim 12 (New): The composition of Claim 8, wherein the cosmetic base is a disinfecting preparation, a therapeutic preparation, an eye care agent, oral cavity wash, gargle, toothpaste, sanitary article, tissue paper, paper towel or cotton.

Claim 13 (New): The composition of Claim 8, wherein the water-soluble extract of algae is prepared using brown algae.

Claim 14 (New): The composition of Claim 8, wherein the water-soluble extract of algae is prepared using green algae.

Claim 15 (New): The composition of Claim 8, wherein the water-soluble extract of algae is prepared using red algae.

Claim 16 (New): The composition of Claim 8, wherein the water-soluble extract of algae is prepared using microalgae.

Claim 17 (New): The composition of Claim 8, wherein the water-soluble extract of algae is prepared using seaweeds of the genus *Porphyra*.

Claim 18 (New): The composition of Claim 8, wherein the water-soluble extract of algae is prepared using wakame.

Claim 19 (New): The composition of Claim 8, wherein the water-soluble extract of algae is prepared using *Chlorella* or *Spirulina*.

Claim 20 (New): The composition of Claim 8, wherein said water-soluble algae extract is prepared by:

disrupting, milling or decomposing with a fibrinolytic enzyme intact algae in an aqueous solution to form an algal product,
digesting said algal product with a protease,
removing a solid fraction and recovering an aqueous fraction, and
optionally recovering a solid product from the aqueous fraction.

Claim 21 (New): The composition of Claim 19, wherein said protease is pepsin.

Claim 22 (New): The composition of Claim 19, wherein said protease is pancreatin, papain, Prolaser, Samoase, Sumizyme AP, MP or FP.

Claim 23 (New): The composition of Claim 19, wherein said water-soluble algae extract is present in an amount ranging from 0.0005% to 28% w/w.

Claim 24 (New): The composition of Claim 19, wherein said water-soluble algae extract is present in an amount ranging from 0.01% to 10% w/w.